

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Public Notice

Significant Modification of the Clean Air Act Permit Program Permit Illinois Power Generating Company in Newton

Illinois Power Generating Company has requested that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) revise the Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit regulating air emissions from its Newton Energy Center (Newton Plant) located at 6725 North 500th Street in Newton. The revisions of the permit would make certain changes to permit conditions resulting from settlement discussions for the resolution of the administrative permit appeal filed in 2005 before the Pollution Control Board. A draft of the planned Revised CAAPP Permit was provided for public review and comment on February 25, 2015, along with a Statement of Basis discussing the planned revisions to the permit. As a consequence of a public inquiry during the comment period, the Illinois EPA has reconsidered the planned changes to Condition 7.1.9(c)(ii)(B). This condition involves Periodic Monitoring for the emissions of particulate matter (PM) from the coal-fired boilers at the Newton Plant. The Illinois EPA is now reopening the comment period to accept comments on this reconsideration.

As a result of the public inquiry, the Illinois EPA recognized that the Statement of Basis incorrectly indicated that concurrent PM and opacity testing for the coal boilers at the Newton Plant was the basis for the value of opacity that is planned to be included in revised Condition 7.1.9(c)(ii)(B). However, such testing to evaluate the relationship between PM emissions and levels of opacity was not available for the Newton Plant. Because of this error in the Statement of Basis, the Illinois EPA has reconsidered the basis for the value of opacity that is planned to be included in revised Condition 7.1.9(c)(ii)(B). No further changes to the conditions of the permit would be made as a result of this reconsideration. The relevant text in the accompanying Statement of Basis has been revised to correctly explain why the planned value of opacity for this condition is appropriate.

The Illinois EPA is providing an additional 30 days for interested persons to submit comments on the particulars outlined above. Comments must be postmarked by midnight June 14, 2015. Requests for information, comments, and questions should be directed to Jillian Hawkins, Office of Community Relations, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, PO. Box 19506, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9506, phone 217/524-0922, TDD phone number 217/782-9143, jillian.hawkins@illinois.gov.

The repositories for the draft permit documents are at the Illinois EPA's offices at 2125 South First Street in Champaign, 217/278-5800 and 1021 N. Grand Ave East, Springfield, 217/782-7027 (please call ahead to assure that someone will be available to assist you). Copies of the draft permit and project summary may also be available at <http://www.epa.gov/reg5oair/permits/ilonline.html>. Copies of the documents will be made available upon request.